

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend the Specification and cancel claims 21-24.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 8, 2004



Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Joseph R. Keating
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett
Registration No. 46,710

KEATING & BENNETT LLP
10400 Eaton Place, Suite 312
Fairfax, VA 22030
Telephone: (703) 385-5200
Facsimile: (703) 385-5080